

The Times-Dispatch

DAILY—WEEKLY—SUNDAY.
Business Office: No. 110 S. Main Street.
Telephone: 110.Circulation Department: No. 110 S. Main Street.
Telephone: 110.Washington Bureau: No. 110 S. Main Street.
Telephone: 110.By Mail: One Six Three One
Daily, with Sunday, \$5.00
Daily, without Sunday, \$4.00
Sunday only, \$1.00
Weekly (Wednesday), \$1.00By Times-Dispatch Carrier Delivery Service
In Richmond (and suburbs), Manchester and
Petersburg—One Week, One Year.
Daily, with Sunday, \$5.00
Daily, without Sunday, \$4.00
Sunday only, \$1.00
Weekly (Wednesday), \$1.00(Entered, January 27, 1905, at Richmond, Va.,
as second-class matter, under act of Congress
of March 3, 1879.)

THURSDAY, MAY 10, 1906.

Thou art not alone, if thou have
faith.
—Carlyle.

Health Methods, Not Men.

Dr. Oppenheimer may with perfect propriety,
personally entertain any ideas he
chooses on the value of "release cultures"—
but when Dr. Oppenheimer, as the chief
health officer of a city plays a practical
joke on the city bacteriological and there-
by attempts to discredit the work of that
department, he is trifling with very se-
rious matters.The public, however, should not allow
its attention to be diverted from the real
issue by this incident, though the conse-
quences on the efficiency of the service,
if such "jokes" are repeated, must be
plain to every one. The issue is not be-
tween Dr. Oppenheimer and Doctor Levy,
nor yet between Dr. Williams and Doctor
Garcin. The real and fundamental ques-
tion is between the citizens of Richmond
and the Common Council. Some eighteen
months ago, when the first agitation for
expansion was begun, The Times-Dispatch
was but little informed as to the real
health conditions in Richmond. Investiga-
tion showed these conditions to be
very bad. And thereupon The Times-
Dispatch printed the facts as we found
them, despite clamorous objections from
all sorts of sources. To-day those condi-
tions are known and acknowledged, and
as a consequence the report of the special
committee was asked for, prepared and
presented.It is not the fault of the public that
the present health board did not long
ago investigate, report upon, and ask
for authority to meet these conditions in
a modern way.That board may have thought the pre-
sent methods good enough. If so, their
opinion is not that of the others, who
have had to deal with similar problems.
It is true that the health board did
not have much money and frequently
asked for more, but what the city needed
was information how and with what
that emergency money ought to be spent.
Each of these requisites have been sup-
plied by the report of the special com-
mittee, which, has especially dealt
with the question of organization of the
health board for the future.Who shall be the chief health officer—
or clerk or what not—has very little to
do with the solution of our present prob-
lem.What Richmond must decide is, Shall
we organize our health department along
modern and metropolitan lines, or shall
we continue to administer that situation
like a small village?The methods in use at present may have
been all that was necessary for Rich-
mond eighteen or twenty years ago, but
to-day they are obviously, demon-
strably and totally inadequate.This is not a question of the qualifica-
tions of this or that set of doctors—it
is a question between two opposing and
radically different methods of administra-
tion.

Cleaning Should Begin at Home.

The agitation in regard to the public
health of Richmond has at least had the
effect to arouse the people to a sense of
the importance of the subject, and there
is a popular demand for improvement in
our system of public sanitation.But while considering this question
from a public point of view, let us not
forget that there is a work for each and
every householder to do; a work which
each and every householder must do for
himself, in promoting the health of the
community, or it will not be done at all.
There is filth on the streets, and the
municipality is responsible for it; but,
taken altogether, there is far more filth
on the premises of individual citizens.
Each and every citizen must keep his
premises in condition. Filth accumulates
at an alarming rate unless the back yard
is as carefully watched as the drawing
room. Some householders who are very
careful to sweep the house and keep it
free from dust, to look over the plum-
bing and see that all the sanitary ar-
rangements inside are in perfect condi-
tion, pay little or no attention to the
back yard. That is only half-way clean-
liness.The hot season draws nigh, and it is
none too soon to prepare for it. It might
be well for the Mayor to proclaim a
municipal cleaning day, by way of call-
ing special attention to the subject.
Whether or not, each and every house-
holder should begin at once to clean up
and disinfect. The cost will be small,
and all such work is far cheaper than
doctors' bills.

Waste in the Educational System.

In his scholarly and interesting address
on Tuesday night before the graduating
class of the Richmond Training School
for Kindergartners, Dr. James E. Rus-
sell laid emphasis upon the enormous
waste in our educational system. He
said that he longed to see the day when
the engine of the public school system
would be so expensive that the govern-
ment would be compelled to drive it
under high pressure all the time and not,
as under the present system, let it stand
in idleness for days and weeks and months
during the year. He longed to see the
time when the engine would be so ex-
pensive that the government could notafford to leave its operation to any ex-
cept experts. He further remarked that
no reputable business concern would
think of operating its machinery as the
machinery of the public school system is
operated to-day.This is a subject which The Times-
Dispatch has often discussed. Our gas
works and water works are in operation
every day, and a part of every night. The
City Hall and every department of our
municipal government does business dur-
ing every business day. But our public
school buildings, representing a large
outlay of capital and whose operation
costs a good round sum, is in operation
about six hours a day, five days in the
week and nine months in the year. In
other words, the plant is idle about four-
fifths of the time.This enormous waste should not be
tolerated. We must devise some plan by
which we can use our expensive plant to
better purpose. It is one of the most
serious questions connected with the
whole problem of public education, and
it is a problem to which the best talent in
the city, official and otherwise, should be
directed. We should not be content until
we have devised some plan by which the
plant can be made to yield a fair return
on the investment.

A Momentous Day in Russia.

After a series of incidents admirably
calculated to arouse popular excitement
to a high pitch, the first Russian Par-
liament convenes to-day. The hostile at-
titude of the bureaucracy has become
increasingly apparent. Beginning with
the unexpected promulgation of the so-
called fundamental law, which limits the
powers of the representative body in
ways contrary to the expressed will of
the majority, the Czar's government has
passed from one high-handed act to an-
other. On Tuesday a meeting of a Par-
liamentary council was dispersed by a
detachment of police and the Imperial
cavalry. A meeting of the Economical
Society was broken up at the point of
the bayonet. Several delegates were ar-
rested as terrorists and many labor lead-
ers were suddenly ordered to leave the
city. If the reactionaries had deliberately
tried to precipitate a conflict they could
not have proceeded more effectively.
There is too much ground for supposing,
indeed, that this has been precisely the
government's intention. In its fatuous
blindness, the Czar's advisers would
doubtless regard the Duma as safely
disposed of if a riot should give a pre-
text for proroguing it.The assembly as it meets to-day will
have a strong popular, even plebeian,
complexion. Of 418 members, only 105 are
noblemen and less than half of these
belong to the large landed and privileged
class. No less than 295 are peasants,
many of them educated only in the ele-
mentary schools. Twenty are scarcely
able to read, and several can neither
read nor write. Sixty-four have incomes
of less than \$40 per year. Of the non-
peasant members, nearly all are from the
ranks of the clerks, skilled workmen,
teachers and petty traders.The spirit in which this unique gather-
ing has come together is, to everybody
except the Czar and his ering counsellors,
sufficiently evident. Rodicheff, in
presenting his resolution declaring the
fundamental law "an open and flagrant
violation of the peoples' rights," incor-
porated in it the significant statement
that "no bureaucratic government can
stop the people's representatives from ac-
complishing their duty." The resolution
was adopted by the Constitutional Demo-
crats, their sole objection being that it
was altogether too weak. If the Czar's
attitude toward constitutionalism seems
unmistakable, then, that of the demo-
crats toward autocracy seems no less so.
It is scarcely conceivable that the assem-
bly will allow itself to be dismissed with-
out bloodshed, and, as has often been
pointed out, the experience of Charles I
with the Levty Parliament suggests that
the situation may have an outcome even
less satisfactory to the upholders of
monarchical principles.

"Extra Billy" Smith.

Richmond, which enjoys the distinction
of being the "Monumental City" of
the South, will add another statue to her
noble collection on May 20th, and citizens
from all parts of the State will come
hither on that day to do honor to the
memory of William Smith, soldier, states-
man and patriot.Governor Smith was a native of King
George county, and was born on Septem-
ber 6, 1796. After being educated in the
classical schools of Virginia, he opened
a law office in Culpeper county in 1818,
and very early in his career took an in-
terest in politics. He was a Democrat,
and soon made a reputation as a stump
speaker. In 1830 he was chosen State
senator and ten years later was elected
to Congress. But in the meantime the
Whigs had gained the ascendancy in his
district, and he was not re-elected. He
removed to Fauquier county, and for a
time retired from active politics.Under the Constitution of 1830 the
Governor was elected by the joint vote
of the two houses of the General Assem-
bly, and in 1845, without intimation to
him, Mr. Smith was elected "chief execu-
tive." He did not know of his election
until he was addressed as "Governor" by
one of his friends who had heard the
news. They were the days when the of-
fice sought the man. He served from
January 1, 1846, to January 1, 1849, the
tenure then being three instead of four
years, as now, and in 1850 removed to
California and had the distinction of
being the president of the first Democratic
convention held in that State. But a
few years later he returned to Virginia,
and was a member of Congress from the
Old Dominion from 1853 to 1861.When the war broke out he joined the
Confederate army, and in June, 1861, be-
came colonel of the Forty-ninth Virginia
Infantry. He was soon afterwards
chosen a member of the Confederate
Congress, but he preferred the field, and
in 1862 resigned his seat to return to his
command. In the same year he was pro-
moted to the rank of brigadier-general,
and was severely wounded at the battle
of Sharpsburg. He was forced to retire
from active service, and in 1863 was
elected Governor by popular vote and

served until the close of the term.

It is said of him that while ingenious in
politics, in war he was noted for his valor
rather than for his tactical skill. In ad-
dition to his intelligence, courage and
patriotism, Governor Smith was original,
gentle and humorous to a degree, and in
spite of his zealous partisanship was one
of the most popular men of his day and
of the most popular men of his day and
generation. He died in Warrenton on
May 18, 1887, full of years and good-will of
all the people. It is most appropriate
that such a man should have a monu-
ment in the Capitol grounds.Governor Smith in his early manhood
established a line of post-coaches through
Virginia, the Carolinas and Georgia, on
which he contracted to convey the United
States mails. He often made demands
for extra compensation for that service,
and thereby gained the sobriquet of
"Extra Billy." This designation, origi-
nally made in jest, afterwards became a
term of popular affection, and clung to
him through life.

A Good Word for Richmond.

The Birmingham Age-Herald prints the
following:
"I lived in Richmond, Va., nearly
twenty-five years, and during that pe-
riod the number of homicides there did
not average more than six a year," said
a well known citizen of Birmingham."Since coming to Birmingham I have
counted as many as fifty murders in
Jefferson county in one year. This dis-
trict is getting a bad reputation and the
philistines here are not doing much to
better it. I, Richmond, as everybody
knows, is a typical southern city. But
the men there who carry concealed
weapons are few, indeed. It never oc-
curs to an ordinary citizen of Richmond
to carry a gun. Public sentiment, to
say nothing of the law, does not tolerate
pistol toting. I think the time has come
when public sentiment in Birmingham
should make it next to impossible for
reputable men to go about the streets
armed."Richmond is proud to have such a
brag that we say that it is a reputation
well deserved. We doubt if there is a
more orderly city of its size in the United
States than Richmond. This is true of
no particular class, but of all classes
and of both races. It is the fashion in this
community to obey the law.

The Cincinnati.

The annual meeting of the Society of
Cincinnati in Richmond to-day will be
a notable social event and will be great-
ly enjoyed by its members and guests.
It is one of the noblest of our ancient
and honorable organizations, George
Washington having been its first Presi-
dent. In the beginning there was consid-
erable opposition to it on account of its
alleged aristocratic tendencies, but the
society soon demonstrated that patriotism
and aristocracy was its inspiration
and that it was perfectly congenial with
the Democracy of the young republic.
The fact that it has preserved its entity
and its organization from 1783 until now
is sufficient proof that it is a true Ameri-
can institution, and that it deserved to
have. No American organization has had
a more honorable career and time only
"brings in the harvest."

Old Virginia on the Move.

The National Good Roads Convention
recently closed a profitable convention at
Tazewell, and as soon as the convention
adjourned the Tazewell Good Roads As-
sociation was formed and that organiza-
tion will take steps at once to improve
the roads of the country.The National Good Roads Association
held a convention during the same week
at Radford, as a result of which the
Radford Good Roads Association was
formed.Christiansburg will also form a good
roads association and before this crusade
is ended good roads sentiment will pre-
vail throughout the Southwest.The Old Dominion is on the move. Vir-
ginians are wide-awake, and we shall
be in prime condition next year to have
a national exposition.We respectfully call attention of friends
and fellow-citizens in the State of Mas-
sachusetts to the fact that "the finest
negro church in the world" was dedi-
cated in the city of Norfolk on Sunday
last. The church is within a stone's
throw of the site of the Jamestown Ex-
position. It has a seating capacity of
2,500, and cost \$50,000. It would seem
from this that the colored people of Vir-
ginia are not so sorely oppressed as
some colored citizens of Massachusetts
would have it appear.Those Russian officials who have lived
for months in momentary danger of as-
sassination can form some sympathy
with the lot of the American base-ball
umpire.Ex-Mayor Phelan improved the occa-
sion to throw a crimp into those who
insinuated that San Francisco no longer
needed the money.Vesuvius's eruptions have become so
general that we seem justified in de-
scribing them as a severe spring rash.Professional etiquette among the doc-
tors occasionally wears so thin as to look
remarkably like senatorial courtesy.If this kind of thing keeps up, our
councilmen are likely to form a union
and strike for an eight-hour night.We wish that the Simplified Language
Board would put in a few hours in
translating the rate bill."Average" wealth is not good enough
for a city with ambitions and prospects.If the stom-
ach is weak,
resort to the
Bitters at
once. It will
strengthen it
and thus cureIndigestion,
Dyspepsia,
Constipation,
Flatulency,
Poor Appetite,
Biliousness,
and cramps.

Marry and Live Long.

Statistics prove that among married
men over twenty years of age and women
over forty, the mortality rate is far less
than among those who remain single.
Among the widowed and divorced the
mortality is exceptionally great. Suicides
among the unmarried are much more
numerous than among the married.The matrimonial state promotes tem-
perance in every form. Furthermore, the
probable duration of life of a married
man of forty exceeds that of his unmar-
ried brother by five years, and the wife
may expect to live one year longer than
a single woman of the same age.—Ameri-
can Medicine.

Tut's Pills

FOR TORPID LIVER.

A torpid liver deranges the whole
system, and produces

SICK HEADACHE,

Dyspepsia, Costiveness, Rheu-
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